सरकार का विचार इस संबंध में कोई ठोस उपाय करने का है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

कृषि मंत्री (श्री बलराम जाखड़): (क) किसानों को उनके उत्पाद के लिए लाभकारी मूल्य सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार प्रत्येक मौसम में प्रमुख कृषि जिन्सों के न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य घोषित करती है और सार्वजनिक तथा सहकारी एजेंन्सियों के माध्यम से खरीद कार्य करती है।

(ख) सरकार यह सुनिश्चित करने का प्रयत्न करती है कि उसके द्वारा घोषित किए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य किसानों को प्राप्त हो रहे हैं। इस प्रकार सरकार उन्हें मूल्यों में आने वाली गिरावट से सुरक्षा देती है

(ग) से (ङ) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

Cost of anti-cancer drugs

*393. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that anti-cancer drugs are exorbitantly costly;

(b) if so, the reasons for not covering these drugs under the Drugs Price Control Order; and

(c) the life saving anti-cancer drugs that have been brought under the Drug Price Control Order?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) The anti-cancer medicines are costly.

(b) and (c) The identification of drugs for price control has been done in accordance with the Criteria laid down in the "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986", across the board, without any distinction on the basis of therapeutic applications of drugs. On this basis, anti-cancer drugs fall outside price control under the DPCO, 1995.

OBC Quota to Children of IAS and IPS Officers

*394. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned 'IAS and IPS children cannot get OBC quota jobs' which appeared in Hindustan Times dated the 6th September, 1995; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir, The news items refers to the criteria laid down by the State Governments of Bihar and U.P. in respect of identification of "Creamy Layer" which has been struck down by the Supreme Court in its judgement delivered on September 4, 1995 in the case of Ashoka Kumar Thakur Vs. State of Bihar and Others in WP(C) No. 631 of 1994 (with WP(C) 138/95, 771/94 and 65/95). The Supreme Court has also directed that for the academic year 1995-96, the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar shall follow the criteria laid down by Government of India. It will be open to the two States to lay down fresh criteria for the subsequent years in accordance with law.

(b) The Supreme Court judgement in the case of Indira Sawhney and Ors. Vs. Union of Indian and Ors. (Mandal Case) delivered on 17th November, 1992 directed the Government of India, each of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to specify the criteria for excluding the "Creamy Layer" from OBCs. Therefore, it is for each State Governments and U.T. Administrations to evolve their own criteria. The Central Government have no role in this matter.

The Central Government had already issued instructions on 8th September, 1993 specifiying the categories of persons belonging to OBC to whom the rule of

exclusion shall apply in reservation in civil posts and services under Government of India.

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय को केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय का दर्जा दिया जाना

*395. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री 4 अगस्त, 1995 को राज्य सभा में अतरांकित प्रश्न संख्या 609 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय को केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय का दर्जा दिए जाने के प्रस्ताव पर विचार का मामला किस चरण पर विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय उत्तर प्रदेश का केन्द्रीय अधिनियम के अंतर्गत स्थापित सबसे पुराना विश्वविद्यालय है, सरकार द्वारा इस विश्वविद्यालय को कब तक केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय घोषित कर दिए जाने की संभावना है;

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिंधिया): (क) और (ख) इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के व्यय के वर्तमान स्तर का मूल्यांकन विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग और उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के परामर्श से किया जा रहा है।

Scheduled Tribe Persons Living Below Poverty Line

*396. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any data has been collected in regard to persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes living below the poverty line in the country as on date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The Planning Commission has estimated the number of persons including those belonging to Scheduled Tribes living below the poverty line for the year 1987-88.

(b) According to the Planning Commission's estimate presently available 49.87 percent of the Scheduled Tribe population in the country was below the poverty line in 1987-88.

Estimates of Jowar Production

*397. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimates of Jowar production in the Kharif season of the current year;

(b) the demand for Jowar in our country;

(c) the Jowar producing States and their production for the last three seasons; and

(d) Government's policy with respect to Jowar?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) According to available information, the production of Kharif Jowar in the current year is expected to be 5.68 million tonnes.

(b) The demand for Jowar in the country varies from year to year depending upon its production, availability of other cereals, growth in population, increase in per capita income, prices of Jowar relative to other cereals etc. As such, separate estimates of demand for Jowar are not being prepared.

(c) A statement showing major Jowar producing States and their production during 1992-93 to 1994-95 is annexed. (See below)

(d) The Government's policy with respect to Jowar is to raise its production through increase in yield per hectare. In order to increase the production and productivity of Jowar, a centrally sponsored scheme namely, Integrated Cereals Development